Staff shortage in Vividh Bharti Jammn Service,

840. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI J. CHTIHARANIAN:

Wifl the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleated lo state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Indian Express dated May 20,2000 under the caption Vividh Bharati Jaaunu Service out of tone due to acute staff shortage;

(b).if so, the details thereof and Government's* reaction thereto; and

(c) whether any steps are being taken to increase the staff strength *M.* this station; if so, the details thereof?

THEMINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JA1TLEY*):* (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Prasar Bharati have reported that one Announcer has been transferred alongwith post from-AIR, Kathua to. recently commissioned, Commercial Broadcasting Service, Radio Kashmir Jammu to manage the service. Station Director, AIR, Jammu has also been instructed *to* to make working arrangement to run CBS, Radio Kashmir Jummu till regular arrangements are made.

Privatisation of AIR

† 841. FROF.RAMGOPALYADAV:
SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased" to state:

(a) whether Government propose to privatize All India Radio;

(b) if-so, the reasons behind privatizing such a sensitive agency like All India Radio; and

(c) if not, the reaction and decision of Government with regard to die newsitem publish^ in the Hindustan, dated 2nd June, 2000 with regard to radio transmission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THEMINISTRYOF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIARUNIAITLEY): **(a)No,** Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(c) The newspaper report refers to issue of FM Radio Jincences to private agencies. The Government have decided to allow 100% Indian owned companies .to set up 108 FM Radio Stations in 40 cities in the first phase, which will supplement and not replace the services being provided fey All India Radio. The basic objective behind licencing the private FM Stations is to give radio listeners more choice *by* making available more programmes with localized flavour in terms of content and relevance, in addition to generating employment opportunity by bringing the private sector resources to the Radio Broadcasting sector.

Irregularities and bungling m Patna Doordarshan Kendra

† 842. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSH1K:
PROF. RAM GOPAL Y ADAV:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether large scale irregularities are being committed in the Doordarshan Kendra, Patna and large scale financial bungling has also taken place there;

(b) whether Government have also conducted any investigation into the present state of affairs and functioning of the Doordarshan Kendra, Patna; *if* so, the result of me investigation ; and

(c) the names of the persons against whom Government have taken action as per the outcome of the investigation-together with the kind of action taken?

THE MINISTER OFSTATE IN THE MINISTRY OFINFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JATTLEY): |a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise

Comprehensive Review of Prasar B ha rati

843. SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the review Committee headed by Mr. N.R. Narayanamurthy had famed out a comprehensive review of Prasar Bharati and made some recommendations to streamline the working and structure of the Corporation;

(b) if so, whether the recommendations have been examined;

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.